

Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

Claims 1-13. (Canceled)

14. (New) Process for the preparation of a thermoplastic elastomer by melt mixing
 - a) partially vulcanized rubber concentrate which is prepared by melt mixing:
 - at least one elastomer and optionally oil (e);
 - at least one thermoplastic polymer (f);
 - a curing agent (g);
 - b) a thermoplastic polymer and/or additives;
 - c) optionally oil; and
 - d) a curing agent to initiate a further dynamic vulcanization.
15. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein the melt mixing is carried out in a twin-screw extruder.
16. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein the melt mixing is carried out in a single screw extruder.
17. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein the partially vulcanized rubber concentrate is prepared by melt mixing
 - e) 30 to 95 parts by weight of the elastomer(s) and 0-70 parts by weight of oil;
 - f) 5 to 50 parts by weight of the thermoplastic polymer(s);
 - g) 0.1-10 parts by weight of the curing agent; and

whereby the sum of the parts by weight of the elastomer(s), the thermoplastic polymer(s) curing agent and oil is 100.
18. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein the elastomer is EPDM or EPM.

19. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is chosen from thermoplastic polyolefin homo- and copolymers, reactor TPO, polyamides, polycarbonate, polyesters, polysulfones, polylactones, polyacetals, acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) resins, polyphenylene oxide (PPO), polyphenylene sulfide (PPS), styrene-acrylonitrile (SAN) resins, polyimides, styrene maleic anhydride (SMA) and aromatic polyketones.

20. (New) Process according to claim 19, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is a thermoplastic polyolefin homo- and copolymer.

21. (New) Process according to claim 20, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is a polypropylene homopolymer.

22. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein the elastomer in the partially vulcanized rubber concentrate has a gel content higher than 50%.

23. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein the elastomer in the partially vulcanized rubber concentrate has a gel content higher than 70%.

24. (New) Process for the preparation of a thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 14, by melt mixing:

- a) 10-90 parts by weight of the partially vulcanized rubber concentrate;
- b) 90-10 parts by weight of the thermoplastic polymer and/or additives;
- c) 0-30 parts by weight of oil;
- d) 0.1-10 parts by weight of the curing agent

whereby the sum of the parts by weight of the partially vulcanized rubber concentrate, the thermoplastic polymer and/or additives, the oil and the curing agent is 100.

25. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein the curing agent is chosen from phenol resins, siloxanes or peroxides.